

**TITLE 18-A
JUDGMENT FUND PROGRAMS
INDEX**

TITLE 18-A JUDGMENT FUND PROGRAMS INDEX	i
TITLE 18-A JUDGMENT FUND PROGRAMS.....	1
CHAPTER ONE GENERAL; JUDGMENT FUND PROGRAMS COORDINATOR; APPEALS; USAGE PLAN	1
Section 101. Definitions.....	1
(a) Applicant.....	1
(b) Chief.....	1
(c) Committee.....	1
(d) Coordinator.	1
(e) General Council.	1
(f) Potential Beneficiary.....	1
(g) Judgment Funds or Trust Funds.....	1
(h) Per Capita Payments.	1
(i) Programs and Services.....	2
Section 102. Judgment Fund Committee Duties.	2
Section 103. Judgment Fund Committee Membership; Selection; Term; Meetings; and Removal.	2
Section 104. Establishment of Judgment Fund Programs; Purpose.	2
Section 105. Judgment Fund Programs Coordinator.	3
Section 106. Responsibilities.	3
Section 106-A. Program Benefits Overpayments.....	4
(a) School Clothing Programs Overpayment and Misuse of Funds.	4
(b) Household and Economic Assistance Program, Elderly Assistance Program, Higher Education Program and Clothing Program Overpayments.....	4
(c) Time Limit for Remedy; Program Overpayments Which Cannot Be Offset.	4
(d) Prosecution for Fraud.....	4
Section 107. Appeal of Decisions Denying Judgment Fund Program Benefits on Grounds that Applicant is Not a Member of the Nation.....	5
Section 108. Appeal of Decisions Denying Judgment Fund Program Benefits on Grounds other Than Finding That Applicant Is Not a Member of the Nation.	6
(a) Notice of Denial of Eligibility and Notice of Appeal Rights.....	6
(b) Appeals to Administrative Appeals Board.	6
(c) Appeal to Administrative Appeals Board.	6
(d) Finality of Decision.....	6
Section 109. Plan for the Use and Distribution of Judgment Funds.....	7
(a) Annual Program Budget.	7
(b) Investment Plan; General.	8
(c) Investment Plan; Annual Audit.....	8
(d) Administration and Management Fees.	8
(e) General.	8
Section 110. Priorities.....	9
(a) Program and Service Area Priorities.....	9
(b) Reserved.....	9

(c) Per Capita Payments.	9
Section 111. Judgment Fund Appeals Board.	9
CHAPTER TWO BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	10
Section 201. Findings.	10
Section 202. Guidelines.	10
(a) Eligibility Requirements.	10
(b) Definitions.	10
(c) Burial Expense Payee.	11
(d) Burial Assistance Benefits Amount.	11
(e) Method of Payment.	12
(f) Miscellaneous Expense Grant Amount.	12
(g) Application Requirements.	12
(h) Application Deadline.	12
Section 203. Effective Date; Program Year.	13
Section 204. Appropriation of Funds.	13
CHAPTER THREE SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM	14
Section 301. Findings.	14
Section 302. Guidelines.	14
Section 303. Effective Date; Program Year.	15
Section 304. Appropriation of Funds.	15
CHAPTER FOUR ELDERLY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	17
Section 401. Title.	17
Section 402. Findings.	17
Section 403. Effective Date; Program Years.	17
Section 404. Duration of Program.	18
Section 405. Eligibility.	18
Section 406. Amount of Assistance.	19
Section 407. Appropriation of Funds.	19
Section 408. Codification.	19
CHAPTER FIVE HIGHER EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP ACT	20
Section 501. Title.	20
Section 502. Findings.	20
Section 502-A. Definitions.	20
(a) Academic Year.	20
(b) Advanced Degree Program.	20
(c) Certificate of Completion.	20
(d) College.	20
(e) Course Credit.	21
(f) Full-time Student.	21
(g) Grade Point Average.	21
(h) Graduate School.	21
(i) Institution of Higher Learning.	21
(j) Junior College.	21
(k) Part-time Student.	22
(l) Quarter.	22

(m)	Required Post-Graduate Continuing Education.....	22
(n)	Semester.....	22
(o)	Student Classification.	22
(p)	Summer School.....	22
(q)	Trimester.	23
(r)	Undergraduate Degree Program.	23
(s)	University.....	23
(t)	Vocational Course.....	23
(u)	Vocational License.....	23
(v)	Vocational Training Facility.....	24
Section 503.	General Eligibility Requirements.	24
(a)	Membership and Descendance.	24
(b)	Class Schedule and Student Classification.	24
(c)	Documentation of Completion of Coursework; Exception.	24
(d)	Application Deadline.	25
Section 503-A.	Special Eligibility Requirements for Vocational Training Scholarship Program; Award Amounts.	26
(a)	Enrollment.....	26
(b)	Award Amounts.....	26
Section 503-B.	Special Eligibility Requirements for the Undergraduate Degree Scholarship Program; Award Amounts.	27
(a)	Enrollment.....	27
(b)	Standard Award.	28
(c)	Standard Awards Amount.....	28
(d)	Incentive Award.....	28
(e)	Incentive Award Amounts.	29
(f)	Miss Seminole Nation Princess Education Scholarship Award.	29
(g)	Award Amounts.....	29
Section 503-C.	Special Eligibility Requirements for the Advanced Degree Scholarship Program; Award Amounts.	29
(a)	Enrollment.....	29
(b)	Award Amounts.....	30
Section 503-D.	Special Eligibility Requirements for the Required Post-Advanced Degree Continuing Education Scholarship Program; Award Amounts.	30
(a)	Enrollment.....	30
(b)	Award Amounts.	30
Section 504.	Tribal Incentive Scholarship.....	30
Section 505.	Effective Date; Program Year.....	31
Section 506.	Release of Scholarship Money.....	31
Section 507.	Appropriation of Funds.....	31
Section 508.	Duration of Program.	31
Section 509.	Codification.....	32
CHAPTER SIX	COMMUNITY CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.....	33
Section 601.	Title.....	33
Section 602.	Findings.....	33

Section 603. Eligibility.	33
(a) Eligible Entities.....	33
(b) Eligible Activities.	34
(c) Past Compliance with Program Requirements a Prerequisite to Continued Funding.	34
Section 604. Application Procedure.	34
Section 605. Approval Procedure.	35
Section 606. Method of Payments.	36
Section 607. Reimbursement; Final Report; Unexpended CCREA Funds.....	36
(a) Reimbursements to CCREA Program Where Other Funding Sources Available for Sponsored Activity.....	36
(b) Final Report.	36
(c) Unexpended Grant Funds.	36
Section 608. Reports.	37
Section 609. Effective Date; Program Years.	37
Section 610. Appropriation of Funds.....	37
Section 611. Codification.....	37
CHAPTER SEVEN HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.....	38
Section 701. Title.....	38
Section 702. Findings.....	38
Section 703. Effective Date; Program Years.	38
Section 704. Eligibility.	39
Section 704-A. Assistance Awards.....	40
Section 705. Appropriation of Funds.....	40
Section 706. Codification.....	40
CHAPTER EIGHT SEMINOLE NATION ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	41
Section 801. Title.....	41
Section 802. Findings.....	41
Section 803. Purpose; Funding Uses.	41
Section 804. Application for Funding.....	42
Section 805. Appropriation of Funds.....	42
Section 806. Effective Date; Program Year; Duration of Program.	43
Section 807. Annual Audits.....	43
Section 808. Codification.....	43

**TITLE 18-A
JUDGMENT FUND PROGRAMS**

**CHAPTER ONE
GENERAL; JUDGMENT FUND PROGRAMS COORDINATOR; APPEALS; USAGE
PLAN**

Section 101. Definitions.

As used in Title 18-A the following terms shall be defined as follows:

(a) Applicant.

“Applicant” means a person who submits an application for Judgment Fund Program benefits on his behalf or on behalf of a potential beneficiary of said benefits.

(b) Chief.

“Chief” means the Principal Chief of the Seminole Nation.

(c) Committee.

Repealed.

(d) Coordinator.

“Coordinator” means the coordinator of Judgment Fund Programs

(e) General Council.

“General Council” means the General Council of the Seminole Nation.

(f) Potential Beneficiary.

“Potential Beneficiary” means a person who may be eligible to receive the benefits of a Judgment Fund Program, but who is not necessarily the applicant for said benefits, such as decedents for whom burial assistance is sought and minors whose parents are seeking school clothing assistance.

(g) Judgment Funds or Trust Funds.

“Judgment Funds” or “Trust Funds” means funds awarded to the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma in Indian Claims Commission or court of claims suits against the United States, and income from said funds, which are held in trust by the United States on behalf of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

(h) Per Capita Payments.

“Per Capita Payments” shall mean individualization of the Judgment funds in the form of equal shares to tribal members, by distribution of investment income from not more than twenty percentum of the judgment funds in equal payments to all members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma born on or before and living on January 23, 1990, including minors, as established by a membership roll certified by the Secretary of Interior pursuant to Section 4 (b) of the Act of January 23, 1990, Public Law 90-277.

(i) Programs and Services.

“Programs and Services” shall mean the use of judgment funds by the Seminole Nation as a governmental entity for tribal social and economic development projects in a manner consistent with the judgment fund plan and priorities set forth in §§ 108 and 109 herein.

[History: Enacted by Law No. 92-11, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law 92-16, December 5, 1992; Amended by Law 93-
21, November 6, 1993]

Section 102. Judgment Fund Committee Duties.

Repealed.

[History: Ordinance No. 79-3, October 26, 1979; Ordinance No. 80-5, June 7, 1980; Codified in title 18-A as §§ 101 and 107 by Law 91-12, November 16, 1991; As Amended and Re-Codified by Law No. 92-11, September 5, 1992; Amended by Law 93-10, March 6, 1993; Amended by Law 93-19, June 5, 1993; Repealed by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993]

Section 103. Judgment Fund Committee Membership; Selection; Term; Meetings; and Removal.

Repealed.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 79-3, October 26, 1979; Ordinance No. 80-5, June 7, 1980; Codified in Title 18-A As §§ 102, 104, 105, 106 and 108 by Law 91-12, November 16, 1991; As Amended and Re-Codified by Law 92-11; September 5, 1992; Repealed by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993]

Section 104. Establishment of Judgment Fund Programs; Purpose.

Judgment Fund Programs of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma are hereby established. The purpose of the Judgment Fund Programs shall be to provide judgment fund program benefits established by Title 18-A herein to eligible members of the Seminole Nation, pursuant to all applicable laws of the Seminole Nation, all applicable tribal and Secretarial plans, all applicable federal laws, and all applicable federal regulations governing Seminole Nation judgment funds.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-11, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993]

Section 105. Judgment Fund Programs Coordinator.

The Judgment Fund Programs shall be administered by a Coordinator. The Coordinator shall be selected pursuant to applicable personnel policies of the Nation. The Coordinator shall be an employee of the Nation, shall be subject to the personnel policies of the Seminole Nation and shall serve under the immediate supervision of the Executive Office.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-11, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993]

Section 106. Responsibilities.

The Judgment Funds Program Coordinator shall be responsible for the performance of the following functions:

(a) Overall program administration, including oversight and direction of all program operations.

(b) Hire, direct and supervise staff consistent with the personnel policies of the Seminole Nation and consistent with the annual operating budget for Judgment Fund Programs approved by the General Council of the Seminole Nation.

(c) Provide fiscal oversight of judgment funds appropriated and budgeted for program operations and distribution of program benefits, including the following fiscal duties:

(1) Monitor on a day to day basis distribution of Judgment funds for program use authorized pursuant to Title 18-A herein, including oversight over the Judgment Fund Programs bookkeeper;

(2) Approve all expenditures pursuant to the operating budget approved by the General Council.

(3) Negotiate with vendors and providers of services funded by programs established pursuant to Title 18-A herein, including funeral directors and stores selling school clothing, in order to ensure the most economic use of program funds, and provide any proposed agreements with said vendors or services providers to the General Council for approval; and

(4) Prepare an annual operating budget for submission to the Finance Committee and Trust Fund Management Board for their review and recommendations prior to submission to the General Council for approval.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-11, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law No. 93-21, November 6, 1993]

Section 106-A. Program Benefits Overpayments.

Overpayment of the following types of program benefits due to fraud or mistake, including clerical or computer error, shall be handled as follows:

(a) School Clothing Programs Overpayment and Misuse of Funds.

The parent or guardian of the child who received a School Clothing Program overpayment or misused the funds will be given an opportunity to repay the funds directly to the School Clothing Program, provided, that if the parent or guardian fails to repay the debt by the end of the school clothing program year in which the debt was incurred, the debt will be offset against the child's school clothing benefit for the next school clothing program year.

(b) Household and Economic Assistance Program, Elderly Assistance Program, Higher Education Program and Clothing Program Overpayments.

Any person who received a Household and Economic Assistance Program overpayment, an Elderly Assistance Program, a Higher Education program overpayment or a Clothing Assistance program overpayment or misused of funds (which has not been offset) shall be given an opportunity to repay the funds directly to the appropriate program, provided that if such funds are not repaid, then the amount of the overpayment shall be offset against any subsequent Judgment Fund Program benefits sought and for which the person might have otherwise been eligible, including benefits from any one or more of the following programs: Household and Economic Assistance Program, Elderly Assistance Program, Higher Education Assistance Program, Clothing Assistance Program or Burial Assistance benefits.

(c) Time Limit for Remedy; Program Overpayments Which Cannot Be Offset.

Any program benefit overpayment discovered will be offset against any subsequent Judgment Fund Program benefits sought and for which the person might have otherwise been eligible. Any program benefit overpayment made to a person which cannot be offset against a subsequent Judgment Fund Program benefit, such as an overpayment from the Burial Assistance Program, shall be written off in the audit year in which it is determined that no offset is possible.

(d) Prosecution for Fraud.

Any suspected intentional misrepresentation of fact or other fraudulent actions by an applicant resulting in an overpayment may be reported to the Nation's Prosecutor, for criminal prosecution.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 94-11, September 3, 1994; Note: Section 5 of Law No. 94-11 provides that it shall be retroactive to apply to any overpayments made since January 1, 1993; Amended by Law No. 99-05, December 4, 1999]

Section 107. Appeal of Decisions Denying Judgment Fund Program Benefits on Grounds that Applicant is Not a Member of the Nation.

If an applicant for program services is denied eligibility because records of the Seminole Nation Enrollment Office establish that the potential beneficiary of the application is not a tribal member, the Judgment Fund Coordinator shall notify the applicant in writing that the application has been denied based on the lack of tribal membership of the potential beneficiary, that the applicant may have certain appeal rights as set forth in Title 18-A of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, SS 107 and 108, and that a copy of said law is posted in the program office and shall be provided to the applicant upon request:

(a) Where a Judgment Fund program application has been denied based on lack of membership of a living potential beneficiary who has never submitted an application for membership or who has not received a final decision of a pending application, the applicant has the right to submit an application for membership to the Enrollment office, or determine status of the pending application in the Enrollment Office, and if necessary, submit any additional information or documents necessary for completion of processing of the membership application. The potential beneficiary must obtain a final determination of membership from the Enrollment Office before the Judgment Fund Program application will be processed further, provided that a determination of tribal membership eligibility shall not retroactively entitle the potential beneficiary to any Judgment Fund Program benefits available or sought by the applicant prior to acquisition of tribal membership status.

(b) Where a Judgment Fund Burial Assistance Program application has been denied based on lack of membership of a deceased potential beneficiary who was not a member of any other Indian nation, the applicant shall submit a membership on behalf of the decedent or determine the status of any pending application in the Enrollment Office, and if necessary, submit any additional information or documents necessary for completion of processing of the membership application. A final determination of membership eligibility from the Enrollment Office must be obtained before the Judgment Fund Program application will be processed further.

(c) Where a Judgment Fund Program application has been denied based on lack of membership of a potential beneficiary who has received a final denial of membership eligibility pursuant to Title 22 (Membership) of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, the decision of the Judgment Fund Programs Coordinator denying Judgment Fund Program benefits based on such a decision shall be final and unappeasable, provided that should tribal membership of the potential beneficiary be established at some later date, nothing herein shall be construed as preventing an applicant for applying for Judgment Fund Program benefits arising in the Judgment Fund Program year in which the new application is submitted.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-11, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993; Amended by Law 93-
22, November 6, 1993]

Section 108. Appeal of Decisions Denying Judgment Fund Program Benefits on Grounds other Than Finding That Applicant Is Not a Member of the Nation.

(a) Notice of Denial of Eligibility and Notice of Appeal Rights.

If an applicant for program services is denied eligibility on grounds other than tribal membership of the potential Judgment Fund program beneficiary and /or if he is determined to have received a program benefit overpayment as described in Section 106-A herein requiring an offset against a subsequent program benefit as authorized by Section 106-A herein, the Judgment Fund Coordinator shall notify the applicant in writing of the application denial or determination of overpayment requiring an offset against a subsequent program benefit. Said notice shall state the grounds for the decision, and a statement of the applicant's rights to appeal the decision to the Administrative Appeals Board as set forth in Section 108 herein. The notice regarding appeal rights shall be mailed in a manner consistent with Section 710 of Title 16 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, provided that if an appealable decision is personally served on the person affected, the notice of appeal rights shall be attached to the decision, in which case mailing of the notice shall not be required.

(b) Appeals to Administrative Appeals Board.

All appeals of Judgment Fund Programs actions authorized pursuant to Section 108 (a) herein shall be conducted by the Administrative Appeals Board of the Seminole Nation pursuant to Title 16, Chapter Seven of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation.

(c) Appeal to Administrative Appeals Board.

An applicant who wishes to contest a denial of an application for Judgment Fund Program benefits or a determination of program benefit overpayment requiring an offset against a subsequent program benefit pursuant to Section 108 (a) herein may file a written appeal to the Administrative Appeals Board, said appeal to be filed with the Judgment Fund Coordinator within thirty (30) days of the date of the Coordinator's decision. If the thirtieth day should fall on a holiday or on a weekend, the appeal must be received no later than the day immediately following the holiday or weekend. The appeal shall be date-stamped at time of receipt by the Judgment Fund Program Coordinator, who shall provide a copy to the applicant. The appeal may be simply stated, but shall specify the particular ground(s) upon which it is based and the action or relief requested. It shall be signed by the person appealing. The Coordinator shall promptly notify a designated person in the Executive Office that an appeal has been filed, and the designated person shall be responsible for contacting the Appeals Board Chairman and securing a hearing date from him.

(d) Finality of Decision.

If the applicant does not file a timely appeal, then he waives his right to a hearing before the Administrative Appeals Board, and the Coordinator's decision will become final. If the applicant files an appeal, the decision made by the Administrative Appeals Board shall be final. A determination of program overpayment requiring an offset against a subsequent program benefit or a finding of ineligibility with regard to one Judgment Fund Program which is based upon an eligibility factor which would affect program ineligibility for any other Judgment Fund

program shall be deemed conclusive, and denial of such other program benefits based on such factor shall be unappealable.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-11, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law No. 93-10, March 6, 1993; Amended by Law
No. 93-21, November 6, 1993 Amended by Law No. 93-22,
November 6, 1993; Amended by Law No 94-11, September 3,
1994]

NOTE: LAW 93-22 BECOME EFFECTIVE ON NOVEMBER 6, 1993, WITH THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS: (1) THAT IT WOULD NOT AFFECT THE FINALITY OF ANY DECISION WHICH BECAME A FINAL DECISION PURSUANT TO LAW IN EFFECT PRIOR TO ITS PASSAGE; (2) THAT ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVED AN APPEALABLE DECISION PRIOR TO DATE OF ITS PASSAGE IS ENTITLED TO A NEW NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS PROVIDING SUCH PERSON WITH THIRTY DAYS FROM DATE OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTICE TO APPEAL THE DECISION; (3) THAT THE ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS BOARD WILL HEAR THE APPEAL OF ANY PERSON WHO HAS AN APPEAL PENDING BEFORE THE JUDGMENT FUND APPEALS BOARD OR THE MEMBERSHIP APPEALS BOARD AS OF NOVEMBER 6, 1993.

Section 109. Plan for the Use and Distribution of Judgment Funds.

The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma's share (75.404 %) of funds appropriated June 1, 1976, in satisfaction of the award granted the Seminole Nation in consolidated Dockets 73 and 151 before the Indian Claims Commission, less attorney fees and litigation expenses, and including all interest and investment income accrued shall be used and distributed pursuant to the following plan adopted by the General Council of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma by on September 12, 1990, approved by the United States Congress pursuant to Sections 3 and 4 of the Act of January 23, 1990, Public Law 90-277.

(a) Annual Program Budget.

One hundred percent (100 %) funds shall be invested by the Secretary of the Interior for the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. The Principal, interest and investment income accrued shall be available for use by the tribal governing body on an annual budgetary basis for programs and services established in accordance with priorities determined by the tribal governing body in program areas which may include, but are not limited to: Health; Education; Social Services; Elderly; Housing; General Community Improvement; Economic and Business Development; Expansion and Preservation of the tribal land base; and Tribal Government Support and Development. Any budget which would cause the available principal to fall below \$35,000,000 must be approved by at least two-thirds of the qualified voters of the tribe voting on the budget referendum in a general or special election.

(b) Investment Plan; General.

If in the future the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma desires to undertake investment of some portion or all of the funds, the tribal governing body may present an investment plan to the Secretary for approval. Approval shall be granted within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the investment plan unless the Secretary determines, in writing, that the plan would not be reasonable or prudent or would otherwise not be in accord with the provision of the Act. Upon approval of the investment plan by the Secretary, funds to be managed under the investment plan are to be transferred to the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma at a mutually agreed time. Neither the United States nor the Secretary shall be liable, because of the Secretary's approval of an investment decision under this plan for any losses in connection with such investment decision.

(c) Investment Plan; Annual Audit.

Funds managed under an investment plan will be audited annually. Within ninety (90) calendar days of the end of each fiscal year an audit report shall be distributed to the governing body and interested members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. The report shall include a statement of the fund's performance and information relevant to the management of the funds including but not limited to: Financial statements, the amount of interest earned from each investment during the reporting period, and a statement of the investments of the fund with an appraisal at market value.

(d) Administration and Management Fees.

All annual expenses associated with the administration and management of the fund shall be paid from the fund income prior to the allocation of funds for programs.

(e) General.

(1) Bond Collateral.

Nothing in this plan shall preclude the tribal governing body from using a portion of the principal as collateral for bond obligations issued by the Seminole Nation.

(2) Income Taxes.

None of the funds made available under this plan for programming shall be subject to Federal or State income taxes nor shall such funds nor their availability be considered as income or resources nor otherwise utilized as the basis for denying or reducing the financial assistance or other benefits to which such household or member would otherwise be entitled under the Social Security Act or and Federal or federally assisted program.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 92-16, December 5, 1993.]

Section 110. Priorities.

The General Council of the Seminole Nation expressly recognizes that the judgment fund is tribal property which is not subject to any individual claim or interest by any individual tribal member. The General Council recognizes that pursuant to the judgment fund plan contained in S 109 herein, it has an obligation to establish distribution priorities, and accordingly establishes the following priorities, in order to simultaneously provide beneficial judgment fund programs and services for the welfare of the Nation as a whole, preserve the judgment fund principal, and ensure the availability of sufficient funds to continue existing and future judgment fund programs:

(a) Program and Service Area Priorities.

The following program and service areas shall be given priority for purposes of the protection of ongoing programs and the establishment of future programs: health, education, social services, elderly, burial, housing, general family assistance and community improvement, economic and business development, expansion and preservation of the tribal land base, and tribal government support and development.

(b) Reserved.

(c) Per Capita Payments.

The General Council of the Seminole Nation recognizes that the judgment fund distribution plan contained in S 109 herein contains no provisions for per capita payments, and therefore it is the policy of the Seminole Nation that:

(1) No per capita payments of judgment funds shall be made unless the judgment fund plan is amended and approved by the United States Congress;

(2) Unless and until the judgment fund plan is amended to allow per capita payments and such amendment is approved by Congress, the Seminole Nation will not request certification of a membership roll of members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma born on or before and living on January 23, 1990, including minors, by the Secretary of Interior pursuant to Section 4 (b) of the Act of January 23, 1990, Public Law 90-277, since federal involvement in identification of individuals benefiting from judgment funds is limited to per capita payment distribution.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 92-16, December 5, 1993.]

Section 111. Judgment Fund Appeals Board.

Repealed.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 93-10, March 6, 1993; Repealed by
Law 93-21, November 6, 1993]

CHAPTER TWO

BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Section 201. Findings.

Findings The Seminole Nation finds that many Seminole Tribal members are not in a financial position to meet the rising costs of funeral expenses and there is a definite need for burial assistance.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 91-4, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law
No. 91-12, November 16, 1991.]

Section 202. Guidelines.

The General Council hereby directs that a Burial Assistance Program be established with the following guidelines:

(a) Eligibility Requirements.

In order to be eligible for burial assistance benefits the deceased must be an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who has been determined to have descended from a member of the Seminole Nation as it existed in Florida on September 18, 1823, provided that a deceased who is not enrolled but who meets all of the other above requirements shall be eligible under the following circumstances:

(1) If the deceased is a stillborn or a child under the age of one year old; and if at least one parent is an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who has been determined to have descended from a member of the Seminole Nation as it existed in Florida on September 18, 1823; and if the Enrollment Office certifies in writing that the deceased was eligible for enrollment; or

(2) If the Enrollment Office certifies in writing that on or before the date of death the deceased had a completed enrollment application containing all required information pending in that office and certifies in writing that the deceased was eligible for enrollment.

(b) Definitions.

(1) Burial Expenses.

The term "burial expenses" shall include the following: cremation expenses; funeral home charges, including but not limited to transportation of the body, cost of casket, flowers, embalming, limousine use, use of chapel; cost of cemetery plot; cost of headstone; and cost of vault.

(2) Burial Service Provider.

“Burial service provider” shall include a funeral home or any other person or business, which provides services resulting in burial expenses.

(c) Burial Expense Payee.

The burial expense payee shall be determined as follows:

(1) Where the deceased is under the age of eighteen years of age, the payee shall be the person who has made legal obligations to pay funeral service providers and who is the custodial parent or other person having legal custody of the child, including a person serving as an Indian custodian pursuant to the Juvenile Code of the Seminole Nation.

(2) When the deceased is eighteen years of age or older, the payee shall be a person who has made legal obligations with funeral service providers, provided that the Judgment Fund Programs Coordinator shall attempt on a case by case basis to give the following persons a priority in serving as grant recipients:

(a) Priority One: A person designated by the deceased to be the burial assistance grant recipient on a notarized form provided by the Burial Assistance Program and on file in the Burial Assistance Program;

(b) Priority Two: The spouse of the deceased;

(c) Priority Three: If the deceased had no spouse or if the deceased's spouse is not living or declines to serve as grant recipient, any child of the deceased eighteen years of age or older who applies for burial assistance.

(d) Priority Four: The parent, brother or sister of the deceased who applies for burial assistance and who executes a sworn statement that the deceased was not survived by any children over the age of eighteen years; or

(3) Where none of the persons listed in sub-section (c) (2) (a) through (d) above are living or where such persons are otherwise unavailable to serve as the grant recipient, then any other relative or other interested person who has made legal obligations to pay funeral service providers may serve as payee.

(d) Burial Assistance Benefits Amount.

The burial assistance benefits amount shall be as follows:

(1) Burial Assistance benefits shall be in the amount of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) for a deceased who is over the age of one year, unless the deceased was cremated, in which case the grant amount shall be in the amount of the actual costs of the burial expenses, not to exceed (\$3,000)

(2) The burial assistance benefits shall be in the amount of the actual cost of the burial expenses, not to exceed eight hundred dollars (\$800), for burial of a deceased aged one year or less, including stillborns.

(e) Method of Payment.

Benefits checks shall be delivered to the payee, and shall be made payable jointly to the burial service providers and the payee, provided that any remaining balance shall be paid by separate check made payable to the payee alone.

(f) Miscellaneous Expense Grant Amount.

In addition to the grant for burial expenses, the responsible family member shall receive a grant of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300) for miscellaneous expenses related to the funeral.

(g) Application Requirements.

Payment shall not be made until receipt by the Judgment Fund Burial Assistance Program of the following:

(1) A copy of an enrollment card of the deceased, or written confirmation of tribal enrollment or written certification regarding enrollment eligibility pursuant to Section 202 (a) (2) by the Enrollment Office; and a copy of the Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card; and

(2) A certified copy of a death certificate or written verification from the funeral home containing the full name of the decedent and the date and place of death; and

(3) A copy of the document executed by the payee or co-payee establishing his legal obligation for the burial expenses; and

(4) Receipts or itemized statements of burial expenses signed by each burial service provider or his authorized agent and the payee or co-payee for payment of the burial expenses.

(h) Application Deadline.

Application must be made within ninety (90) Days from the date of death of the deceased.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 91-4, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law No. 91-12, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law 91-4A, December 12, 1991; Amended by Law No. 92-2, March 7, 1992; Amended by Law No 93-08, March 6, 1993; Amended by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993; Amended by Law 99-05, December 4, 1999]

Section 203. Effective Date; Program Year.

The effective date of this Program shall be May 15, 1991. The first program period shall end on June 30, 1992. The second program period shall run from July 1, 1992 through December 30, 1992. Effective January 1, 2005, each program year will be on a fiscal year basis, commencing October 1 and ending September 30 of the following year. The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year Provided that sufficient funds are available in the Burial Assistance Program Fund and Provided further that the General Council has by resolution approved a budget for such program year.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 91-4, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law No. 91-12, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law No. 92-7, June 27, 1992; Amended by Ordinance No. 2005-03, March 5, 2005.]

Section 204. Appropriation of Funds.

The General Council hereby authorizes an initial appropriation of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and no/cents (\$500,000.00) in Judgment Funds made available under P.L. 101-277 for the burial assistance program. All additional appropriations for this program shall be made by resolution duly approved by the General Council. All funds appropriated for the Burial Assistance Program shall be placed in a separate, interest bearing trust account entitled "Burial assistance Fund". Any interest accruing on Burial Assistance Fund assets shall be incorporated into the fund.

[History: Ordinance No. 91-4, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law No. 91-12, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law No. 92-7, June 27, 1992.]

CHAPTER THREE

SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM

Section 301. Findings.

(a) The Seminole Nation finds that there are many requests for assistance for children's school clothing and there are no programs available to provide such assistance to meet this need for tribal members.

(b) A need exists for a program to provide for school clothing for eligible members.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 91-5, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law
No. 91-12, November 16, 1991.]

Section 302. Guidelines.

The General Council hereby directs that a School Clothing Assistance Program be established with the following guidelines;

(a) The eligibility requirements shall be:

(1) Applicant must be an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who has been determined to have descended from a member of the Seminole Nation as it existed in Florida on September 18, 1823.

(a) Copy of Valid Seminole Nation Tribal Card

(b) Copy of Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood

(2) Applicant must be between the ages of four and nineteen years old and must be pre-enrolled in one of the following schools for an academic year which starts in the year in which assistance is sought or must be enrolled in and attending one of the following schools at the time of application; a certified Head Start Program or a state certified pre-school, or kindergarten through the twelfth (12th) grade.

(3) Applicant must present either one of the following: (1) written proof of school pre-enrollment or (2) written proof of school attendance.

(I) Public School System

(1) Must have application signed by Superintendent, Principal, or Counselor and documented by school seal.

(II) Home School students

(1) Must submit the curriculum currently being followed.

(2) Certificate of Training for the Instructor.

(3) School accreditation.

(III) Head Start Programs or Day Care.

(1) Must have application signed by director or teacher.

(2) Copy of License if required, or a letter of explanation from facility.

(b) A grant of One Hundred Fifty Dollars and no/cents (\$150.00) will be made available to the parent/legal guardian or student in grades pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. A grant of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and no/cents (\$250.00) shall be made available to the parent/legal guardian or student in grades six (6) through twelve (12). The payment will be issued to the parent/legal guardian of student (if student is aged 18 or 19 the payment will be issued to the student).

(c) Participants are eligible to receive one school clothing assistance payment per program school year.

(d) Applications can only be submitted during August, September and October for the full school year. All applications must be submitted for the school year in which assistance is sought and can not be submitted for prior school years.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 91-5, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law No. 91-12, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law No. 93-03, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law No.95-01, February 4, 1995; Amended by Law No. 99-05, December 4, 1999; Amended by Ordinance No. 2006-07, August 1, 2006; Amended by Ordinance No. 2007-03, May 10, 2007]

Section 303. Effective Date; Program Year.

Effective January 1, 2005, each program year will be on a fiscal year basis, commencing October 1 and ending September 30 of the following year. Effective July 31, 2007, the School Clothing Assistance Program shall be modified as reflected in Section 302. The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year, provided that sufficient funds are available in the School Clothing Assistance Program Fund and provided further that the General Council has by resolution approved a budget for such program year.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 91-5, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law No. 91-12, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law No. 92-7, June 27, 1992; Amended by Ordinance No. 2005-03, March 5, 2005; Amended by Ordinance No. 2006-07, August 1, 2006.]

Section 304. Appropriation of Funds.

The General Council hereby authorizes an initial appropriation of Three Hundred Eighty Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Dollars and no/cents (\$380,550) in Judgment Funds made

available under P.L. 101-277 for the school clothing assistance program. All additional appropriations for this program shall be made by resolution duly approved by the General Council. All funds appropriated for the School Clothing Assistance Program shall be placed in a separate; interest bearing trust account entitled "School Clothing Fund". Any interest accruing on Fund Assets shall be incorporated into the Fund.

[HISTORY: Ordinance No. 91-5, July 27, 1991; Codified by Law No. 91-12, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law No. 92-7, June 27, 1992.]

CHAPTER FOUR ELDERLY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Section 401. Title.

This act shall be known as the Elderly Assistance Program Act.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991]

Section 402. Findings.

The Seminole Nation makes the following findings relating to its elderly Seminole tribal members:

(a) Elderly Seminole tribal members have traditionally taken responsibility for the care of not only their own children and grandchildren, but also the needs of other family members, resulting in financial deprivations to elderly tribal members;

(b) The Seminole Nation is indebted to its elders for the leadership role, which they have taken in the betterment of their family members and the Nation as a whole;

(c) Seminole elders, particularly those aged sixty-five and older, and even more particularly those aged seventy-five and older, due to their advanced age, have a much decreased opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the judgment fund programs which will benefit the younger generation and future generations to come, yet have had to wait for such benefits for a much greater length of time;

(d) Elderly Seminole tribal members as a group will significantly benefit from a financial assistance program, in view of their special economic needs arising from a variety of factors, including increases in the cost of living, fixed incomes of the elderly, high medical costs of the elderly, need for specialized care, and decreased employment opportunities for the elderly.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991]

Section 403. Effective Date; Program Years.

The effective date of this Act shall be July 1, 1991. The first program period shall end on June 30, 1992. The second program period shall run from July 1, 1992 through December 30, 1992. Effective January 1, 2005, each program year will be on a fiscal year basis, commencing October 1 and ending September 30 of the following year. The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year, provided that sufficient funds are available in the Elderly Assistance Fund and provided further that the General Council has by resolution approved a budget for such program year.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law
No. 92-7, June 27, 1992; Amended by Ordinance No. 2005-03,
March 5, 2005.]

Section 404. Duration of Program.

The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year provided that sufficient judgment funds are appropriated by resolution of the General Council for such program year.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991]

Section 405. Eligibility.

In order to be eligible for benefits pursuant to the Elderly Assistance Program Act, the following requirements must be met:

(a) The applicant shall be an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who has been determined to have descended from a member of the Seminole Nation as it existed in Florida on September 18, 1823; and present

(1) Valid Seminole Nation Tribal Enrollment Card

(2) Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)

(3) Third form of Identification (which may include but shall not be limited to one of the following)

(a) Social Security Card (signed)

(b) Driver's License

(c) Birth Certificate and Photo

(b) The applicant shall sign an application requesting a grant of financial assistance to acquire goods and services otherwise unavailable to him or to otherwise improve the quality of his life and standard of living, and shall state the nature of his needs on the application, which may include but shall not be limited to the following: transportation costs; purchase or repair of household appliances; telephone equipment and charges; home furnishings; home repair; entertainment needs; purchase of wheelchairs and other equipment related to physical disability; modifications to living quarters to make them accessible to the handicapped; clothing needs; utility needs; debt reduction; and payment of medical deductibles for medicare and health insurance.

(c) The applicant shall be at least sixty-two years of age in order to be eligible for assistance under the Elderly Assistance Program, and must present documentation of his birth date prior to payment.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law 93-01, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law No. 99-05, December 4, 1999; Amended by Law No. 2002-03, March 5, 2002; Amended by ratification of Ordinance 2002-03 by Ordinance No. 2003-04,

April 17, 2003; Amended by Ordinance No. 2006-08, August 1,
2006.]

Section 406. Amount of Assistance.

An eligible applicant who has participated in the Household Economic Assistance Program pursuant to Title 18-A, §§ 701-706 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, shall receive a one-time assistance payment in the amount of two-thousand dollars (\$2,000), less the amount of any Elderly Assistance payment received by the applicant pursuant to Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Law No. 91-10 prior to January 1, 1993. An eligible applicant who has not participated in the Household Economic Assistance Program pursuant to Title 18-A, §§ 701-706 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, shall receive a one-time assistance payment in the amount of three-thousand dollars (\$3,000), less the amount of any Elderly Assistance payment received by the applicant pursuant to Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Law No. 91-10 prior to January 1, 1993.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law
93-01, January 23, 1993.]

Section 407. Appropriation of Funds.

An initial appropriation of _____ from judgment funds awarded to the Seminole Nation in Dockets No. 73 and No. 151 of the Indian Claims Commission, released under Public Law 101-277, shall be appropriated for the Elderly Assistance Program pursuant to a resolution enacted by the General Council. All additional appropriations shall be made by resolution of the General Council. All funds appropriated for the Elderly Assistance Program shall be placed in a separate interest bearing trust account entitled "Elderly Assistance Fund". All interest accruing from funds in said trust account shall be incorporated into the Fund.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law
No. 92-7, June 27, 1992.]

Section 408. Codification.

This law shall be codified as Chapter Four of Title 18-A of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

[HISTORY: Law 91-10, November 16, 1991]

**CHAPTER FIVE
HIGHER EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING
SCHOLARSHIP ACT**

Section 501. Title.

This act shall be known as the Higher Education and Vocational Training Scholarship Act (hereinafter referred to as HEVT Scholarship Act.)

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law
93-02, January 23, 1993.]

Section 502. Findings.

The Seminole Nation finds that Seminole tribal members attending vocational schools and institutes of higher learning are in want of financial assistance to meet the costs of essential needs not met by grants, scholarships, loans, and family contributions. An increasing number of tribal members are attending vocational schools and institutions of higher learning and a need exists to establish a scholarship program to assist in the costs related to such training and education for eligible tribal members.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law
93-02, January 23, 1993.]

Section 502-A. Definitions.

(a) Academic Year.

"Academic year" shall be defined as a fall semester of any given year and the immediately following spring semester.

(b) Advanced Degree Program.

"Advanced degree program" shall be defined as an educational program offered by an institute of higher learning to persons who have earned a bachelor's degree and are in pursuit of a master's degree, PHD, jurist doctorate degree, medical degree, pharmacist degree, or other similar type of advanced degree.

(c) Certificate of Completion.

"Certificate of completion" shall be defined as a certificate issued by a facility offering vocational training, stating that a student has successfully completed a course offered by the school.

(d) College.

"College" shall be defined as a state or privately funded institution of higher learning located within or without the State of Oklahoma and offering a course of general studies leading to an associates or a bachelor's degree.

(e) Course Credit.

"Course credit" shall be defined as the number of credits or units earned for each undergraduate program or advanced degree program course taken by a student. The determination of a student's course credit shall be made by the institution of higher learning attended by the student, based upon criteria used by said institution.

(f) Full-time Student.

A "full-time student" in a vocational training facility shall be defined as a student considered to be a full-time student by the vocational training facility which he is attending. A "full-time student" in an undergraduate degree program or graduate degree program shall be defined as a student enrolled in the minimum number of hours or units of course credit in a semester, trimester or quarter found to constitute full-time enrollment by the institution of higher learning attended by the student, based on criteria used by the institution. A "full-time student" in a graduate degree program shall be defined as a student enrolled in the minimum number of hours or units of course credit in a semester, trimester or quarter found to constitute full-time enrollment by the institution of higher learning attended by the student, based on criteria used by the institution.

(g) Grade Point Average.

"Grade point average" shall be defined as the student's average of grades received for courses taken during a specified period of time, based upon a point scale which assigns four (4) points to an A, three (3) points to a B, two (2) points to a C, one (1) point to a D and zero (0) points to an F. The determination of a student's grade point average shall be made by the institution of higher learning attended by the student, based upon criteria used by said institution.

(h) Graduate School.

"Graduate school" shall mean a state or privately funded institution of higher learning located within or without the State of Oklahoma and offering an advanced degree program.

(i) Institution of Higher Learning.

Institution of higher learning shall mean a junior college, college or university, including law schools, medical schools and other advanced degree programs affiliated with a university.

(j) Junior College.

"Junior college" shall be defined as a state or privately funded institution of higher learning located within or without the State of Oklahoma and offering a course of general studies leading to an associate degree.

(k) Part-time Student.

A "part-time student" in a vocational training facility shall be defined as a student enrolled in a vocational training facility but not considered to be a full-time student by the vocational training facility which he is attending. A "part-time student" in an undergraduate degree program or an advanced degree program shall be defined as a student enrolled in at least one hour or unit of course credit in a semester, trimester or quarter, but not enrolled in a sufficient number of hours to be classified as a full-time student. An applicant attending summer school shall not be classified as a part-time student.

(l) Quarter.

A "quarter" shall be defined as a period of instruction in a vocational training facility or institution of higher learning lasting approximately 9 weeks, with four quarters per academic year, and offering student enrollment in a sufficient hours or units of course credit for classification of a student as a full-time student for the academic year.

(m) Required Post-Graduate Continuing Education.

"Required Post-Graduate Continuing Education" consists of ongoing educational activities, including short courses and seminars, for: (1) person who possesses any advanced degree, who is in a teaching profession or other profession requiring an advanced degree, and who is required to engage in continuing education related to his profession by licensing requirements or other similar regulatory requirements related to his profession; or (2) a person who is in pursuit of an additional degree.

(n) Semester.

A "semester" shall be defined as a period of instruction in a vocational training facility or institution of higher learning lasting approximately eighteen weeks, classified as the fall semester or the spring semester for each academic year, and offering student enrollment in a sufficient hours or units of course credit for classification of a student as a full-time student for the academic year.

(o) Student Classification.

"Student classification" shall be defined as classification of a student in an undergraduate degree program as a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior, or classification of a student in an advanced degree program as a graduate student, law student, medical student or other student pursuing a specialized advanced degree. Student classification shall be made by the institute of higher learning attended by the student, based upon criteria used by said institution.

(p) Summer School.

"Summer school" shall be defined as a period of instruction in a vocational training facility or institution of higher learning lasting approximately four weeks, with one summer school session per academic year, offered to enable students to acquire additional hours or units of course credit beyond those of a full-time student attending during regular school sessions in an academic year. The term "summer school" shall not include the summer quarter of an institution of higher learning which operates on a quarterly basis, but may include any special summer sessions offered by such institution which would enable a student to acquire additional hours or units of course credit beyond those of a full-time student attending during regular school sessions in an academic year.

(q) Trimester.

A "trimester" shall be defined as a period of instruction in a vocational training facility or institution of higher learning lasting approximately 12 weeks, with three trimesters per academic year, and offering student enrollment in a sufficient hours or units of course credit for classification of a student as a full-time student for the academic year.

(r) Undergraduate Degree Program.

"Undergraduate degree program" shall be defined as an educational program offered by an institute of higher learning to a student in pursuit of an associate degree or bachelor's degree or diploma.

(s) University.

"University" shall be defined as an institution of higher learning providing facilities for teaching and research; and consisting of an undergraduate division which confers bachelor's degrees and a graduate division which comprises graduate school and professional schools each of which may confer master's degrees and doctorates.

(t) Vocational Course.

"Vocational Course" shall mean training and instruction in a skill or trade to be pursued or which is being pursued as a career, or training and instruction on specific topics related to community service, or self-improvement, provided that such course also meets one of the following criteria: (1) The course is offered by a university and audited by the student by paying for the class and on-site attendance without seeking a grade, (2) The course is taken by a student on site at the vocational training facility or other location designated by the facility and will result in the student's receipt of a certificate of completion, or (3) The course is a correspondence course offered through the mail by a vocational training facility, which will result in the student's receipt of a certificate of completion. Classification of a course as a vocational course shall not be affected if the course could result in receipt of college credits, if the student has not taken the course for the purpose of earning a college degree. A course is not a vocational course if it is taken for purposes of obtaining a GED certificate, unless said course is offered concurrently with vocational training.

(u) Vocational License.

“Vocational license” shall mean a license, permit or certificate directly related to completed vocational training and which is a prerequisite to the performance of job functions related to said vocational training.

(v) Vocational Training Facility.

“Vocational training facility” shall be defined as an accredited private or state funded vocational school or university located within or without the State of Oklahoma, which provides vocational courses as defined in sub-section (t) herein.

[HISTORY: Law 93-02, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law 93-19, June 5, 1993; Amended by Law No. 96-03, June 29, 1996; Amended by Law No. 99-05, December 4, 1999]

Section 503. General Eligibility Requirements.

In addition to special eligibility requirements for each type of education activity funded by the HEVT Scholarship Program, the applicant must meet the following general eligibility requirements in order to receive funding pursuant to the HEVT Scholarship Program:

(a) Membership and Descendance.

The applicant must be an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who has been determined to have descended from a member of the Seminole Nation as it existed in Florida on September 18, 1823. The applicant must submit a copy of his Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and his tribal enrollment card with his application, or if such cards are not available, they may execute a release of information authorizing the Judgment Fund Program Coordinator to secure a copy of the tribal enrollment card from the Enrollment Office of the Seminole Nation, or the CDIB card from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

(b) Class Schedule and Student Classification.

The applicant must attach a copy of his current class schedule to the application for confirmation of enrollment, together with documentation from the vocational training facility or institution of higher learning attended regarding the number of hours in which he is enrolled, regarding identification of the school session as a semester, trimester, quarter or summer school session, regarding the school or institution's classification of the student as a full-time or part-time student for the applicable session, and in the case of students pursuing undergraduate degrees, regarding the school or institution's classification of the student as a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior.

(c) Documentation of Completion of Coursework; Exception.

The applicant must provide the Judgment Fund Program Coordinator with a copy of his grade report following completion of undergraduate degree or advanced degree coursework funded by the HEVT Program for a semester, trimester or quarter, or with a copy of a certificate of completion for each vocational school course taken during a period in which he received a Vocational Training Scholarship Program award; and must submit a transcript listing

courses taken, dates, and grades annually. An applicant who fails to meet these requirements shall not be eligible for further HEVT Program funding. An applicant who has received HEVT Scholarship funding who did not complete the coursework for that funding period shall not be eligible for further HEVT funding unless he provides documentation that said failure to complete coursework was for good cause, such as serious illness of the applicant, death or serious illness of applicant's close family member.

(d) Application Deadline.

An applicant who fails to meet the applicable application deadline shall not be awarded a scholarship for the period covered by such deadline. Application deadlines are as follows:

(1) An Undergraduate Degree Scholarship application and the Advanced Degree Scholarship Application for funding for a semester attended or to be attended during the fall semester of a school term shall be due no later than November 10 of that year.

(2) An Undergraduate Degree Scholarship application and the Advanced Degree Scholarship Application for funding for a semester attended or to be attended during the spring semester of a school term shall be due no later than April 10 of that year.

(3) An Undergraduate Degree Scholarship application for funding for a trimester or quarter shall be due no later than thirty days from the applicant's first day of class, as identified by the institution of higher learning.

(4) An application for an Undergraduate Degree Scholarship Program Incentive Award must be submitted no later than sixty (60) days following the completion of the semester, trimester or quarter for which the incentive award is sought.

(5) An application for funding for summer school or a post-graduate continuing education course or seminar must be submitted no later than thirty days from the applicant's first day of class, as identified by the institution of higher learning.

(6) An application for funding for a vocational course shall be submitted no later than thirty days from the applicant's completion of the course, as identified by the vocational training facility, provided that the date of application shall effect the amount of funding which may be received in accordance with Section 503-A (b) (2) and (3) herein.

(7) The Seminole Princess Education Scholarship award shall be required to begin usage during or within one year following the successful completion of her reign as Miss Seminole Nation Princess.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law 93-02, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law 93-09, March 6, 1993; Amended by Law 93-19, June 5, 1993; Amended by Law No. 96-

03, June 29, 1996; Amended by Law No. 99-05, December 4, 1999
Amended by Law No. 2003-05, June 7, 2003 Amended by Law
No. 2004-03. January 17, 2004]

Section 503-A. Special Eligibility Requirements for Vocational Training Scholarship Program;
Award Amounts.

Special requirements and award amounts for the Vocational Degree Scholarship Program shall be as follows:

(a) Enrollment.

The applicant must have applied for enrollment in a vocational training facility and in pursuit of a certificate of completion for the vocational course or courses in which the applicant is enrolled.

(b) Award Amounts.

The HEVT Scholarship Program shall provide grant awards to eligible applicants taking vocational courses on an individual basis pursuant to the following requirements:

(1) Funding for Tuition, Books and Fees.

Applicants for funding for vocational school courses shall be awarded funding for actual costs of tuition, books and fees not to exceed \$1200 per semester or equivalent course period. Payment for tuition, books, and fees shall be made directly to the vocational training facility in the name of the school if the funding application is made prior to actual enrollment. If the application is made after enrollment, reimbursement not to exceed \$1200 for the actual costs of tuition, books and fees shall be made to the student only if the student provides receipts or other written verification from the vocational training facility confirming that the student had paid such expenses. Such reimbursement shall not be released to the student until the last day to drop or add courses, in order to verify that the student is actually enrolled in the number of hours for which reimbursement is sought.

(2) Part-time Student Stipend; Annual Funding limit.

A part-time student shall receive a total stipend of twelve dollars (\$12) per week for each week of attendance and continued enrollment in a course or courses or attendance at a one day course for anyone who is required to engage in continuing education related to his profession, provided that no stipends shall be paid for weeks of attendance occurring prior to the application date and prior to the date of application approval.

(3) Full-time Student Stipend; Annual Funding Limit.

A full-time student shall receive a total stipend of twenty-five dollars (\$25) per week for each week of attendance and continued enrollment in a course or courses

provided that no stipends shall be paid for weeks of attendance occurring prior to the application date and prior to the date of application approval.

(4) Payment of Stipends to Part-Time and Full-Time Students.

Stipend for part-time and full-time students shall be payable monthly, provided that the stipend shall be paid unless the Judgment Fund Office has first received written verification of attendance during the preceding four week period, signed by the vocational course instructor on an official form provided by the vocational training facility. The monthly stipend payment shall be issued as expeditiously as possible, not longer than three weeks from date of receipt of the attendance verification by the Judgment Fund Office.

(5) Licensing Fees.

Upon successful completion of a vocational course or courses, an applicant shall be eligible for a one time direct payment of \$100 or the actual cost, whichever is less, to licensing agency for any licensing fee required for the exercise of the vocational skill acquired by the applicant, or shall be eligible for direct reimbursement to the applicant for payment of such fee upon submission of a written verifiable receipt showing payment to the licensing agency within thirty days of such payment.

(6) Annual Funding Limits.

A part-time student who is taking only correspondence courses shall receive no more than a total of \$400 per calendar year for tuition, fees and books, and shall receive no stipend, payment for tuition, books, and fees shall be sent to the vocational facility. A part-time vocational student shall receive no more than a total of \$600 per calendar year for tuition, fees, books, and stipends. A full-time vocational student shall receive no more than \$1200 per calendar year for tuition, fees, books, and stipends.

(7) Total Funding Limit.

The total of all Vocational Scholarship Program grants awarded to an applicant shall not exceed \$2400.

[HISTORY: Law 93-02, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law No. 96-03, June 29, 1996 Amended by Law No. 99-05, December 4, 1999 Amended by Law No. 2003-05, June 7, 2003]

Section 503-B. Special Eligibility Requirements for the Undergraduate Degree Scholarship Program; Award Amounts.

Special requirements and award amounts for the Undergraduate Degree Scholarship Program shall be as follows:

(a) Enrollment.

The applicant must be accepted and enrolled in a junior college, college or university and in pursuit of an undergraduate degree.

(b) Standard Award.

An undergraduate degree program student seeking Undergraduate Degree Scholarship Program standard funding for his second semester freshman year or for his sophomore, junior or senior years must maintain a 2.0 grade point average in order to be eligible for continued scholarship funding. The applicant must submit a copy of his official transcript containing his grade point average to the Judgment Fund Program Coordinator following the completion of each semester, trimester or quarter prior to issuance of further Higher Education Scholarship Program funding.

(c) Standard Awards Amount.

The HEVT Scholarship Program shall provide grant awards to eligible applicants in undergraduate degree programs on an individual basis. Full-time freshmen students will be awarded five hundred dollars (\$500) per semester or three-hundred thirty-three dollars (\$333) per trimester or two-hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) per quarter, and not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000) for the program year. Full-time sophomore students will be awarded six hundred dollars (\$600) per semester or four hundred dollars (\$400) per trimester or three hundred dollars (\$300) per quarter, and not to exceed twelve-hundred dollars (\$1200) for the program year. Full-time juniors will be awarded eight hundred dollars (\$800) per semester or five-hundred and thirty-three dollars (\$533) per trimester or four hundred dollars (\$400) per quarter, and not to exceed sixteen-hundred dollars (\$1600) for the program year. Full-time seniors will be awarded nine-hundred dollars (\$900) per semester or six-hundred dollars (\$600) per trimester or four-hundred and fifty dollars (\$450) per quarter, and not to exceed eighteen-hundred dollars (\$1800) for the program year. Part-time students will be awarded funding for tuition, books, and fees. The total part-time student grants awarded shall not exceed three-hundred dollars and no/cents (\$300), per semester or two-hundred dollars (\$200) per trimester or one-hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) per quarter, or the cost of tuition, books and fees, whichever is less. The total of all Undergraduate Degree Scholarship Program standard grants awarded to an applicant including part-time grants shall not exceed five thousand and six-hundred dollars (\$5,600).

(d) Incentive Award.

In addition to a standard award, an Undergraduate Degree Scholarship Program incentive award shall be given to any full-time undergraduate degree program student who has achieved,

(1) a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average for a semester, trimester, or quarter and who has completed twelve (12) hours to fourteen (14) hours or equivalent course credit during said semester, trimester, or quarter, or

(2) has a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average for a semester, trimester, or quarter and who has completed fifteen (15) hours or equivalent course credit during said semester, trimester, or quarter.

(e) Incentive Award Amounts.

The HEVT Scholarship Program shall provide incentive grant awards to eligible applicants in undergraduate degree programs on an individual basis. Students who meet the eligibility criteria for incentive awards shall be awarded the following:

(1) Three-hundred (\$300) dollars per semester, or two-hundred (\$200) dollars per trimester, or one-hundred and fifty (\$150) dollars per quarter if twelve (12) to fourteen (14) hours or equivalent course credit,

(2) Five-hundred (\$500) dollars per semester, or three-hundred and thirty-three (\$333) dollars per trimester, or two-hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars per quarter if a minimum of fifteen (15) hours or equivalent course credit, following successful completion of said semester, trimester, or quarter.

(f) Miss Seminole Nation Princess Education Scholarship Award.

An undergraduate degree program student seeking Undergraduate Degree Princess Education Scholarship funding for her second semester must maintain a 3.0 grade point average in order to be eligible for continued scholarship funding. The applicant must submit a copy of her official transcript containing her grade point average to the Judgment Fund Program Coordinator following the completion of the semester, trimester or quarter prior to issuance of further Seminole Princess Educational Scholarship award funding.

(g) Award Amounts.

A two thousand (\$2000) dollar Educational Scholarship shall be awarded to the winner of the Miss Seminole Nation Princess Pageant. The scholarship applicant is approved, monitored and awarded in compliance within the guidelines of the Judgment Fund Program of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

(1) One thousand (\$1000) dollars per semester or six hundred and sixty six (\$666) dollars per trimester or five hundred (\$500) per quarter with a minimum of 12 hours or equivalent course credits.

[HISTORY: Law 93-02, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law 93-09, March 6, 1993; Amended by Law 93-19, June 5, 1993; Amended by Law No. 95-02, May 13, 1995; Amended by Law No. 99-05, December 4, 1999 Amended by Law No. 2004-03, January 17, 2004.]

Section 503-C. Special Eligibility Requirements for the Advanced Degree Scholarship Program; Award Amounts.

Special requirements and award amounts for the Advanced Degree Scholarship Program shall be as follows:

(a) Enrollment.

The applicant must possess a bachelor's degree and be accepted and enrolled in a university and in pursuit of an advanced degree.

(b) Award Amounts.

The HEVT Scholarship Program shall provide grant awards to eligible applicants in advanced degree programs on an individual basis. Graduate students will be awarded eight-hundred and fifty dollars (\$850) per semester or five-hundred and sixty-six (\$566) per trimester or four-hundred and twenty-five (\$425) per quarter, not to exceed seventeen-hundred dollars for the program year. Part-time students will be awarded funding for tuition, books and fees. The total part-time student grants awarded shall not exceed \$250 per semester or \$166 per trimester or \$125 per quarter, or the cost of tuition, books and fees, whichever is less. Graduate students in summer school will also be awarded funding in the amount of \$500 per semester or \$333 per trimester or \$250 per quarter, or the cost of tuition, books and fees, whichever is less. The total of all Advanced Degree Scholarship Program grants awarded to an applicant shall not exceed \$5,100.

[HISTORY: Law 93-02, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law 93-19, June 5, 1993.]

Section 503-D. Special Eligibility Requirements for the Required Post-Advanced Degree Continuing Education Scholarship Program; Award Amounts.

Special requirements and award amounts for the Required Post-Graduate Continuing Education Scholarship Program shall be as follows:

(a) Enrollment.

The applicant must be registered for the "required post-graduate continuing education" course or seminar or class for which he seeks funding.

(b) Award Amounts.

The HEVT Scholarship Program shall provide grant awards to eligible applicants for post-graduate continuing education programs on an individual basis, provided that funding for each applicant shall be based on actual tuition and books or registration fee, not to exceed \$600 in a calendar year.

[HISTORY: Law 93-19, June 5, 1993]

Section 504. Tribal Incentive Scholarship.

AMENDED AND RE-CODIFIED IN § 503-A.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law 93-02, January 23, 1993.]

Section 505. Effective Date; Program Year.

The effective date of the program shall be September 1, 1991, and shall include the 1991 Fall Term. The first program period shall end on June 30, 1992. The second program period shall run from July 1, 1992 through December 30, 1992. Effective January 1, 2005, each program year will be on a fiscal year basis, commencing October 1 and ending September 30 of the following year. The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year, provided that sufficient funds are available in the Higher Education Scholarship Fund and provided further that the General Council has by resolution approved a budget for such program year.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law No. 92-7, June 27, 1992; Amended by Ordinance No. 2005-03, March 5, 2005.]

Section 506. Release of Scholarship Money.

Unless otherwise expressly provided in Chapter Five herein, the Higher Education Scholarship and the Seminole Nation Princess Education Scholarship award shall be mailed to the student or to the college or university business office of attendance, provided that funds shall not be released to the student until the last day to drop or add to verify the student is enrolled in the number of hours required by applicable provisions of Chapter Five herein.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law 93-02, January 23, 1993; Amended by Law No. 96-03, June 29, 1996. Amended by Law No. 2004-03, January 17, 2004]

Section 507. Appropriation of Funds.

The General Council hereby authorizes an initial appropriation of Four Hundred Seven Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Two Dollars and no/cents (\$407,332) in Judgment Funds made available under Public Law 101-277 for the Higher Education Scholarship Program. All additional appropriations shall be made by resolution of the General Council. All funds appropriated for the Higher Education Scholarship Program shall be placed in a separate interest bearing trust account entitled "Higher Education Scholarship Fund". Any interest accruing on Fund assets shall be incorporated into the Fund.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Amended by Law No. 92-7, June 27, 1992.]

Section 508. Duration of Program.

The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year, provided that sufficient judgment funds are appropriated by resolution of the General Council for such program year.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991; Repealed by Law No. 92-7, June 27, 1992.]

Section 509. Codification.

This law shall be codified as Chapter Five of Title 18-A of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

[HISTORY: Law 91-11, November 16, 1991.]

CHAPTER SIX
COMMUNITY CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

~~Section 601. Title.~~

~~This act shall be known as the "Seminole Nation Community Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Assistance Program Act."~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Repealed
by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1,
2006.]

~~Section 602. Findings.~~

~~The Seminole Nation makes the following findings relating to tribal cultural and recreational activities of its Seminole tribal members:~~

~~(1) — The customs and beliefs of the Seminole people are rapidly eroding because the practice of many of the customs have declined due to lack of participation, isolation, and unawareness of the existence of said customs and beliefs; and the only remedy is to present and promote customs of the Seminole people openly and vigorously, in order to retain known customs and to regain lost customs;~~

~~(2) — The history of the Seminole people in respect to origin in Florida and regarding new beginnings in Oklahoma are not commonly known to many tribal members and their families;~~

~~(3) — The printed language of the Seminole people is rarely found in volume nor is the spoken language promoted by an organized educational process such as one found in a classroom setting which should be of primary concern in the perpetuation of our culture; and~~

~~(4) — The unique recreational and arts and crafts activities of the Seminole people must be preserved to enhance the customary beliefs, social forms, material traits, and characteristics of the Seminole Nation not only for the existing generations but for generations to come.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Repealed
by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1,
2006.]

~~Section 603. Eligibility.~~

~~(a) — Eligible Entities.~~

~~The following entities shall be eligible to be grantees of the Community Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Assistance Program ("CCREA Program") funding of specified activities officially sponsored by the Seminole Nation:~~

~~(1) — The Seminole Nation;~~

~~(2) — Individual members of the Seminole Nation who demonstrate special qualifications regarding knowledge of some aspect of Seminole culture and who demonstrate the ability to educate others regarding said culture; and~~

~~(3) — Organizations in which a majority of the members are members of the Seminole Nation, provided that bands of the Seminole Nation shall not be eligible for funding of activities.~~

~~(b) — Eligible Activities:~~

~~Funding shall be provided only for activities which are officially sponsored by the Seminole Nation pursuant to duly approved resolution of the General Council. Funding shall be provided for the following types of activities:~~

~~(1) — Tribally sponsored activities related to the purpose of the Community Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Assistance Program, including but not limited to Seminole Nation Days, Seminole Nation Summer Youth Camp, representation of the Seminole Nation by the Seminole Nation Princess at various functions, the Seminole Nation's Annual Christmas Dinner, one time church assistance, and special educational events for Seminole members; and~~

~~(2) — Other tribally sponsored activities that pertain to the preservation or promotion of Seminole cultural, historical, and recreational customs.~~

~~(c) — Past Compliance with Program Requirements a Prerequisite to Continued Funding.~~

~~If previously funded, the activity shall have met all required processes for previous year, and shall not have received funding in current program year under the "Seminole Nation Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Assistance Program."~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992;
Amended by Law No. 99-02, August 28, 1999; Repealed by
Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1,
2006.]

Section 604. Application Procedure.

The application for the "Seminole Nation Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Program" shall include the following information:

~~(a) — It shall include the name and address of the applicant; and shall identify the individual who is designated to serve as the official representative of the applicant for purposes of the grant application and for purposes of grant administration, in cases in which the Seminole Nation is the applicant and in cases in which the grantee is an entity comprised of more than one individual.~~

~~(b) — It shall identify and describe the activity, stating how the activity will meet the objectives of the " Seminole Nation Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Assistance Program ", and identifying key individuals who will conduct the activity;~~

~~(c) — It shall state the date or dates of the activity including the date upon which the activity will cease;~~

~~(d) — It shall include an itemized budget for use of CCREA program funds, provided that said budget shall also contain a list of all projected income from other sources which may be used instead of CCREA funds or which may be used to reimburse the CCREA program;~~

~~(e) — It shall include a request for authorization of use of a specific amount of CCREA program funds consistent with the CCREA program fund budget projection; and~~

~~(f) — It shall include a statement by the applicant's official representative that applicant understands that if funds from other sources should become available to pay expenses funded by the CCREA program prior to or within ninety days following the ending date of the activity, the applicant shall use the non CCREA funds to pay such expenses or to reimburse the CCREA program fund.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Repealed
by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1,
2006.]

Section 605. Approval Procedure.

~~The Judgment Fund Coordinator shall review the application to insure the activity meets the above guidelines and make a recommendation regarding the Nation's sponsorship and funding of the activity to the General Council. Formal approval shall be given by resolution of the General Council setting forth the purpose and dates of the activity, stating that the activity is formally sponsored by the Seminole Nation, designating the individual who is to serve as representative of the grantee for purposes of grant administration, approving the CCREA budget for the activity, and designating the CCREA grant award amount.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992;
Amended by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993; Repealed by
Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1,
2006.]

Section 606. Method of Payments.

~~Payments of funded activities consistent with the grantee's budget shall be made directly by the Judgment Fund Program, upon submission of invoices and purchase orders approved by the grantee or the person designated as the grantee representative and approved by the Coordinator of the Judgment Fund Program. All invoices and purchase orders shall be submitted to the Judgment Fund Program not later than thirty (30) days from the final date of the sponsored activity.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992;
Amended by Law 93-21, November 6, 1993; Repealed by
Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1,
2006.]

Section 607. Reimbursement; Final Report; Unexpended CCREA Funds.

(a) — Reimbursements to CCREA Program Where Other Funding Sources Available for Sponsored Activity.

~~If the application for the sponsored activity specified other potential sources of income pursuant to Section 604(d) herein, and if funds from the other potential income sources listed on the application's budget projection become available to pay expenses funded by the CCREA program prior to or within ninety days following the ending date of the activity, the grantee shall be required to use non CCREA funds to pay such expenses. In the event such expenses have already been paid from the CCREA program fund, grantee shall be required to reimburse the CCREA program fund. The grantee shall submit a financial report to the Judgment Fund Program Coordinator in a timely manner showing all non CCREA sources of income for the sponsored activity, including an itemized statement of all expenditures made from said income sources and the remaining balance available for reimbursement to the CCREA fund, provided that such report shall be completed no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days after the final date of the sponsored activity.~~

(b) — Final Report.

~~The Judgment Fund Program Coordinator shall in a timely manner prepare a final report for each sponsored activity, showing all expenditures in each line item of the approved CCREA budget.~~

(c) — Unexpended Grant Funds.

~~CCREA program funds for sponsored activities not expended shall revert to the CCREA Fund for future grant award purposes.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Repealed
by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1,
2006.]

Section 608. Reports.

~~The Judgment Fund Program Coordinator shall provide quarterly reports to the General Council, showing expenditures made for each sponsored activity, and specifying funds remaining for grant award purposes.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Repealed by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1, 2006.]

Section 609. Effective Date; Program Years.

~~The effective date of this Program shall be September 1, 1992. The first program period shall end on December 31, 1992. Thereafter, each program year shall be on a fiscal year basis, commencing October 1 and ending September 30 of the following year. The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year, provided that sufficient funds are available in the "Seminole Nation Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Program Fund" and provided further that the General Council has by resolution approved a budget for such program year.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Amended by Ordinance No. 2005-03, March 5, 2005; Repealed by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1, 2006.]

Section 610. Appropriation of Funds.

~~An initial appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) from judgment funds awarded to the Seminole Nation in Dockets No. 73 and No. 151 of the Indian Claims Commission, released under Public Law 101-277, shall be appropriated for the "Seminole Nation Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Program" pursuant to a resolution enacted by the General Council. Any and all additional appropriations shall be made by resolution of the General Council. All funds appropriated pursuant to this Act shall be placed in a separate interest bearing trust account entitled "Seminole Nation Cultural and Recreational Enhancement Program". All interest accruing from funds in said trust account shall be incorporated into the Fund.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Repealed by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1, 2006.]

Section 611. Codification

~~This law shall be codified as Chapter Six of Title 18-A of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.~~

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-9, August 15, 1992; Repealed by Ordinance No. 2006-09, August 1, 2006 effective October 1, 2006.]

CHAPTER SEVEN

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Section 701. Title.

This act shall be known as the "Household Economic Assistance Program".

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-12, September 5, 1992.]

Section 702. Findings.

The Seminole Nation makes the following findings relating to its Seminole tribal members in households or family units:

(1) The basic unit of any nation is the family, and the unique structure of the Seminole Nation is securely entrenched on that premise. Herein lies the strength of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma;

(2) Seminole tribal households and/or families are enduring severe financial hardship due but not limited to factors such as increasing unemployment, continued increases in the cost of living, low incomes related to underemployment, rising medical costs, and decreasing funds through federal and state assistance programs;

(3) Severe economic need attributable to these factors is apparent among tribal members nationally as well as locally; and

(4) In view of such adverse economic conditions, Seminole tribal members as individuals will significantly benefit from a economic assistance program designed to increase an individual household's capacity to obtain adequate housing or to repair current housing, to maintain household appliances and furnishings, to purchase medical equipment not available from other sources, to meet clothing needs, to pay utilities, to support householder efforts to secure employment, and to purchase other goods and services related to the improvement of the quality of life and standard of living of the applicant and his household.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-12, September 5, 1992.]

Section 703. Effective Date; Program Years.

The effective date of this Act shall be January 1, 1993, and each program year shall be on a fiscal year basis, commencing October 1 and ending September 30 of the following year. The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year, provided that sufficient funds are available in the Household Economic Assistance Program Fund and provided further that the General Council has by resolution approved a budget for such program year.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-12, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Ordinance No. 2005-03, March 5, 2005.]

Section 704. Eligibility.

The eligibility requirements for the "Household Economic Assistance Program" are:

(a) The applicant shall be an enrolled member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma who has been determined to have descended from a member of the Seminole Nation as it existed in Florida on September 18, 1823;

(b) The applicant shall present a:

- (1) Valid Seminole Nation Tribal Enrollment Card
- (2) Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)
- (3) Third form of identification (including but limited to)
 - (a) Social Security Card or
 - (b) Driver's License or
 - (c) Birth Certificate

(c) The applicant shall have reached the age of twenty-one (21) on or before the date of application and shall be the head of a household consisting of one or more persons or be a person who contributes to the well-being or support of a household consisting of more than one person.

(d) The applicant shall sign an application identifying the nature of his need for financial assistance, provided that an award shall be granted only if the applicant's need falls within one or more of the following specific need categories:

(1) Category 1: Social Welfare. Social welfare needs shall include purchase of medical equipment not available from other sources, payment of eyecare expenses, payment of medical and dental bills, including prescriptions and hospital expenses, and purchase of clothing.

(2) Category 2: Housing. Housing needs shall include obtaining and maintaining adequate housing, household repairs, maintenance of household appliances and furnishing, and payment of utility bills.

(3) Category 3: Employment. Employment needs shall include employment related transportation costs, expenses related to efforts to secure employment, and purchase of equipment related to the applicant's vocation.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-12, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law No. 92-16, December 5, 1992; Sub-section (e)
Repealed by Law No. 93-11, March 6, 1993; Amended by Law

No. 99-05, December 4, 1999; Amended by Ordinance No. 2006-10, August 1, 2006 effective January 1, 2007.]

Section 704-A. Assistance Awards.

The applicant shall identify the amount of financial assistance requested for each need identified on the application. The Judgment Fund Program shall determine the amount of assistance to be awarded to each eligible applicant for each requested need category pursuant to guidelines approved by the General Council, consistent with the following limitations on award amounts: An eligible applicant shall receive no more than \$800 for a Category 1 need, no more than \$700 for a Category 2 need, and no more than \$600 for a Category 3 need. No eligible applicant shall receive more than one payment during the Household and Economic Assistance Program year. Total assistance shall not exceed one-thousand dollars (\$1,000) for this program.

[HISTORY: Amended by Law 92-16, December 5, 1992.]

Section 705. Appropriation of Funds.

The General Council hereby authorizes an initial appropriation of \$5,539,000 from Judgment Funds awarded to the Seminole Nation in Dockets No. 73 and No. 151 of the Indian Claims Commission made available under Public Law 101-277 for the Household Economic Assistance Program. All additional appropriations for this program shall be made by resolution duly approved by the General Council. All funds appropriated pursuant to this Act shall be placed in a separate interest bearing trust account entitled "Household Economic Assistance Program". All interest accruing from funds in said trust account shall be incorporated into the Fund.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-12, September 5, 1992.]

Section 706. Codification.

This law shall be codified as Chapter Seven of Title 18-A of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law No. 92-12, September 5, 1992;
Amended by Law No. 92-16, December 5, 1992.]

CHAPTER EIGHT
SEMINOLE NATION ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Section 801. Title.

The title of this Program shall be the Seminole Nation Economic, Business, and Community Development Program.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994; Amended
by Law No. 99-03, August 28, 1999]

Section 802. Findings.

The General Council of the Seminole Nation hereby finds as follows:

(a) The Seminole Nation has met the priorities of its Judgment Fund distribution plan as set forth in §§ 109 and 110 herein in the area of education, elderly assistance, burial assistance, household assistance and cultural and recreational enhancement by the establishment of Judgment Fund Programs in Chapters Two through Seven herein.

(b) There is a continued need for use of judgment funds in the following priority areas set forth in §§109 and 110: health, housing, social services, economic and business development, general community improvement, land acquisition and tribal governmental support and development;

(c) The priority areas set forth in Section 802(b) above will be best served through the use of judgment funds as a funding source for community and economic development activities of the Seminole Nation which will increase the Seminole Nation land base, result in employment of tribal members and add results in revenues to the Seminole Nation which may be used to meet the individual and collective needs of the Nation as a whole in said priority areas.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994; Amended
by Law No. 99-03, August 28, 1999]

Section 803. Purpose; Funding Uses.

The purpose of this Program is the establishment of a method of providing the following two categories of funding for community and economic development activities by the Seminole Nation:

(a) Partial payment of operating costs and expenses of the Seminole Nation Economic Development Office or any successor agency established by Title 8 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, or other agency as deemed appropriate, including personnel, contractual and non-personnel expenses; and

(b) Establishment of an Economic Development Fund administered by the Seminole Nation Economic Development Office or any successor agency established by Title 8-A of the

Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, or other agency as deemed appropriate, which may be used for the following purposes:

- (1) Payment of matching tribal shares required by federal and private grants;
- (2) Land acquisition, including expenses related to land purchase, such as options, closing costs, title insurance and trust acquisition process;
- (3) Funding of economic development enterprises by the Seminole Nation;
and
- (4) Collateral for bonds issued by the Seminole Nation pursuant to the Federal Indian Tribal Government Tax Status Act, 26 U.S.C. §1781 upon express approval by separate General Council approval.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994; Amended
by Law No. 99-03, August 28, 1999]

Section 804. Application for Funding.

The Economic Development Office or any successor agency established by Title 8 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, or any other agency as deemed appropriate, may seek funds pursuant to Chapter Eight herein in the form of an annual budget request submitted to the Finance Committee as part of the annual Judgment Fund Programs budget process. The budget request shall specify the amount of funds sought for operational expenses and the amount of funds sought for the Economic Development Fund or the Community Development Fund and shall include itemization of expenses within each of the two budget categories. The Finance Committee may recommend that the General Council appropriate funds to the Economic Development Office/Community Development Program, upon certification by the Trust Fund Management Board that sufficient funds are available for economic development as part of the annual Judgment Fund Programs budget.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994; Amended
by Law No. 99-03, August 28, 1999]

Section 805. Appropriation of Funds.

The General Council hereby authorizes an initial appropriation of Seven Hundred Thousand (\$700,000) in Judgment Funds made available under Public Law 101-277 for the Economic and Business Development Funding Program, provided that all expenditures of said funds must be pursuant to a budget containing information set forth in Section 804 herein and approved by the General Council. All additional appropriations for this program shall be made by resolution duly approved by the General Council. All funds appropriated for this program for operating costs and expenses of the Seminole Nation Economic Development Office or any successor agency established by Title 8 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, or other agency as deemed appropriate, shall be placed in an interest bearing "operations" account and all funds appropriated for the Economic Development Fund/Community Development Fund shall be placed in a separate interest bearing account entitled "Economic Development Fund/Community

Development Fund." The Trust Fund Management Board shall determine the schedule for draw-down of the funds.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994; Amended
by Law No. 99-03, August 28, 1999]

Section 806. Effective Date; Program Year; Duration of Program.

The effective date of this program shall be the date of enactment. The first program period shall end on December 31, 1994. Effective on January 1, 2005, each program period shall be on a fiscal year basis, commencing October 1 and ending September 30 of the following year. The Seminole Nation shall continue to operate the program from program year to program year, provided that sufficient trust funds are available in the program account or accounts and provided further that the General Council has approved a budget for such program year pursuant to Section 804 herein.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994; Amended
by Ordinance No. 2005-03, March 5, 2005]

Section 807. Annual Audits.

All funds awarded pursuant to this Chapter shall be included in the separate annual Judgment Fund Programs audit, as well as in the annual audit of the Seminole Nation Economic Development Department or Community Development Program or of any successor agency established by Title 8 of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation, or other agency as deemed appropriate.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994; Amended
by Law No. 99-03, August 28, 1999]

Section 808. Codification.

(c) This law shall be codified as Chapter Eight of Title 18-A of the Code of Laws of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and shall be effective on date of passage.

[HISTORY: Enacted by Law 94-1; February 5, 1994]